IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. When strikethrough cannot easily be perceived, or when five or fewer characters are deleted, [[double brackets]] are used to show the deletion. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (currently amended) A remote negotiation apparatus which causes~~, before providing a service including sales of merchandise,~~ a provider of ~~the~~ a service and a receiver to ~~do remote negotiation~~ negotiate remotely through a network communication ~~environment~~ before a service including sales of merchandise is provided, comprising:

a control unit which displays a first window ~~of a predetermined format corresponding to~~ representing a commercial transaction document ~~related to providing of~~ specifying the service on ~~both~~ a first operation terminal used by the provider ~~and a second operation terminal used by the receiver and~~, ~~as~~ information ~~contents necessary for finishing~~ items included in the commercial transaction document ~~are~~ being input by the provider ~~to the window displayed on the first operation terminal~~ or the receiver, ~~reflects~~ and displays a second window including the input information ~~contents to the window displayed~~ items on ~~the~~ a second operation terminal ~~to present the information contents to the receiver~~ used by the receiver,

wherein said control unit requests an approval operation by the receiver for each of the information items, and, when the approval operation is not performed, restricts the provider to input next information items to the first window.

2. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A remote negotiation apparatus ~~according to claim 1~~, which causes a provider of a service and a receiver to negotiate remotely through a network communication, before a service including sales of merchandise is provided, comprising:

a control unit which displays a first window representing a commercial transaction document specifying the service on a first operation terminal used by the provider, information

items included in the commercial transaction document being input by the provider or the receiver, and displays a second window including the input information items on a second operation terminal used by the receiver,

wherein said control unit requests an approval operation by the provider for each of the information items ~~contents before reflecting the input information contents to the window displayed on the first operation terminal~~, and, when the approval operation is not performed, restricts the receiver to input ~~the~~ next information items ~~contents necessary for finishing the commercial transaction document to the window displayed on~~ to the second operation terminal.

3. (cancelled) .

4. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein every time the information ~~contents~~ items necessary for finishing the commercial transaction document are input, said control unit executes at least one of voice output and highlighting related to the information ~~contents~~ items on one of the first and second operation terminals, on which the window to which the input information ~~contents~~ items should be reflected is displayed.

5. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when all information ~~content~~ items necessary for finishing the commercial transaction document are input, said control unit displays all the input information ~~contents~~ items on the first and second operation terminals at once and requests a confirmation operation for transaction ~~contents~~ items specified by the commercial transaction document ~~finished by~~ according to all the input information ~~contents~~ items.

6. (original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the commercial transaction document is at least one of an estimate, a contract, and a purchase order which decides an amount related to providing of the merchandise.

7. (currently amended) A remote negotiation method ~~of~~ causing~~, before providing merchandise including a service,~~ a provider of ~~the merchandise~~ a service and a receiver to ~~do remote negotiation~~ negotiate remotely through a network communication ~~environment~~, before the service including sales of merchandise is provided, comprising:

~~a~~ first ~~step of~~ displaying of a first window ~~of a predetermined format corresponding to~~ representing a commercial transaction document ~~related to providing of~~ specifying the ~~merchandise~~ service on ~~both~~ a first operation terminal used by the provider ~~and a second operation terminal used by the receiver~~; and

~~a reflection~~ second ~~step of, as~~ displaying of information ~~contents~~ items included in ~~necessary for finishing~~ the commercial transaction document which are input by the provider to the first window displayed on the first operation terminal, ~~reflecting~~ in a second window ~~the input information contents to the window displayed~~ on ~~the~~ a second operation terminal used by the receiver,

wherein in said second displaying, an approval operation by the receiver is requested for each of the information items, and, when the approval operation is not performed, restricts the provider to input next information items to the first window.

8. (currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 7, wherein the method further comprises steps of~~ A remote negotiation method causing a provider of a service and a receiver to negotiate remotely through a network communication, before the service including sales of merchandise is provided, comprising:

first displaying of a first window representing a commercial transaction document specifying the service on a first operation terminal used by the provider; and

second displaying of information items included in the commercial transaction document which are input by the provider or the receiver, in a second window on a second operation terminal used by the receiver, wherein

when the information ~~contents necessary for finishing the commercial transaction document~~ items are input by the receiver to the second window ~~displayed on the second~~

~~operation terminal, requesting~~ an approval operation by the provider is requested for each of the information ~~contents~~ items, ~~and~~

when the approval operation is not performed, ~~restricting~~ the receiver is restricted to input ~~the~~ next information ~~contents necessary for finishing the commercial transaction document~~ items to the second window ~~displayed on the second operation terminal~~, and

~~the reflection step reflects~~ the ~~input~~ next information ~~contents~~ items which are input in the second window are displayed into ~~to~~ the first window ~~displayed~~ on the first operation terminal when the approval operation is performed.

9. (cancelled).

10. (new) A remote negotiation method between a service provider and a service receiver, comprising:

inputting and displaying terms of a commercial transaction via a first terminal used by the service provider and a second terminal used by a service receiver, wherein

a new term is input after a current term input by one of the service provider and the service receiver is approved by the other one of the service provider the service receiver, and

all the terms are displayed on the first terminal and the second terminal for a final approval by both the service provider and the service receiver to conclude the commercial transaction.